

BY THE EDITOR.—That depends. An average here would not be an average 100 miles from here. The only way to get an average of your own locality would be to ascertain the yield for a series of years and figure from them. What you want to get, probably, is an answer to the question as put by Mr. Pringle, viz.: what would you call a *fair* yield? (*i. e.*) what should the average yield be year after year, to make the keeping of bees a paying investment. The most of those who have given figures have stated 50 lbs. comb and 75 lbs extracted honey as an average, and doubtless they are satisfied with this yield or they would not continue in the business. Would it not be a desirable thing to figure out what would be *fair*, and then estimate the result of the season's work, as either above or below the point.

Upper Ventilation.

QUERY No. 24.—Do you practise a system of upper ventilation for winter? If so, how do you obtain it?

DR. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—No.

J. F. DUNN, RIDGEWAY, ONT.—No.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N. Y.—Through quilt and sawdust cushion.

A. B. MASON, AUBURNDALE, O.—I winter in the cellar, and all the ventilation is through the quilt used during the summer.

G. W. DEMAREE, CHRISTIANBURG, KY.—No, unless you call the usual practice of covering the frames with be quilts "upper ventilation."

J. K. DARLING, ALMONTE, ONT.—I remove the propolised sheet and cover the hive with a cotton bag filled with dry, fine sawdust, no other covering, I winter in the cellar.

JAMES HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—No, we used to; also experimented a great deal both ways, but found no value in upward ventilation or any other special method of ventilation.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—No. I used to leave off covers and put cloth and chaff cushion above. I now leave cover on sealed tight, and it seems as well.

EUGENE SECOR, FOREST CITY, IOWA.—I have tried it, but do not think it essential. With loose bottom boards, and in a warm cellar the simplest way is to raise the hive—say an inch.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—I don't want any upward ventilation. Make the hives as close as possible on top, and don't lose but very

few bees in winter. I want plenty of bottom ventilation.

R. MCKNIGHT, OWEN SOUND, ONT.—(1) By removing the honey board and leaving the quilt on—in the house. (1) By removing the honey board, leaving on the quilt and then putting on an empty super filled with any good transmitting material—out of doors.

G. A. DEADMAN, BRUSSELLS, ONT.—I only do so when colonies incline to be restless, or cluster around the entrance, and I do so then by pushing back one corner of the cushion, or opening the cover to a feeder which is in the side of the hive near the top.

A. PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—My opinion is that no upper ventilation is required save what is secured by the use of porous or absorbent quilts on top of frames. When other conditions are favorable even that much ventilation is unnecessary; for strong colonies with ample lower ventilation in a good repository will effectually expel the moisture below.

J. E. POND, NORTH ATTLEBORO', MASS.—The question of ventilation as applied to bee hives is very generally misunderstood. In my own case wintering on summer stands, I give full opening at entrance; cover frames at top with some porous material that will allow excess of moisture to pass off, and yet retain all heat in the hive. This plan works well with myself, and I believe it to be in accordance both with nature and science.

BY THE EDITOR.—Leave the entrance wide open; use ordinary cotton quilts over frames; remove the lid. This is for indoor wintering. For out-door, put on sufficient protection to prevent a too great escape of heat. Let the entrance do the ventilating.

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